

CIA Records Sought in Slander Suit

BALTIMORE, April 20 (AP) — Chief Judge Roszel C. Thomsen of U.S. District Court said today that lawyers are attempting to persuade the Central Intelligence Agency to provide information so a slander suit may be tried.

Pretrial hearings have been going on for two years in the suit filed in 1964 by Erik Heine, 46, of Rexdale, Ontario, against Juri Raus, 39, of 6508 Osborne rd., Hyattsville.

Heine, seeking \$10,000 in compensatory damages and \$100,000 in punitive damages, contends that Raus slandered him by calling him an agent of of the KGB, the Soviet Secret Police.

Heine is a candidate for election in the Estonian Cultural Council, the central agency for Estonian nationals in Canada.

He said he was highly respected by the Legion of Estonian Liberation Inc., an Estonian veterans organization, and Raus's allegation damaged this respect. Raus is an official of the veterans group.

In the pretrial hearings since the suit was filed, Raus has contended he gave information about Heine in his (Raus') capacity as an agent of the CIA.

One paper filed in the complex case states that the CIA hired Raus to carry out specific assignments, but there was no elaboration on locale or details of those assignments.

Raus had said he promised he never would divulge information obtained through his association with the CIA without written permission from the CIA. The CIA has said the information is privileged and it will not divulge any details relating to Heine.

The CIA refusal has thwarted the solution of the case but Judge Thomsen has refused to grant motions for its dismissal in the hope the CIA might later modify its position.